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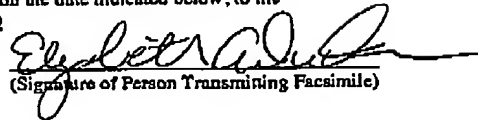
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(Date)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of )

Hisanao Maruyama et al. )

) Examiner: L. Edmondson

Title: WELDED PORTION CONSTITUTION  
AND WELDING METHOD )

) Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 10/786,262 )

) Confirmation No. 2410

Filed On: February 25, 2004 )

) (Our Docket No. 5764-0002)

Hartford, Connecticut, December 19, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

S I R:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 22,  
2005, issued in the above-identified application, Applicant hereby elects  
Group I, Claims 1, 3-5 and 8-10, drawn to a weld joint.

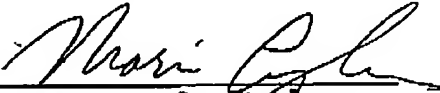
Serial No. 10/786,262

Restriction Requirement Dated: 11/22/05

Response to Restriction Requirement Dated: 12/19/05

Applicant believes no fee is due for filing this response,  
however, if it is determined that a fee is due, please charge deposit account  
no. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Marina F. Cunningham  
Registration No. 38,419  
Attorney for the Applicant

McCORMICK, PAULDING & HUBER LLP  
CityPlace II, 185 Asylum Street  
Hartford, CT 06103-3402  
(860) 549-5290